



FLOOD TERMS



FLOOD ADVISORY

A Flood Advisory is issued when flooding is not expected to be bad enough to issue a warning. However, caution should be exercised.



FLOOD WATCH

A Flood Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for flooding.



FLOOD WARNING

A Flood Warning is issued when flooding is imminent or occurring.



FLASH FLOOD WARNING

If you are in a flood-prone area, move immediately to higher ground. Flash floods happen quickly and only take minutes to occur.



ReadyWisconsin is a campaign of Wisconsin Emergency Management, a division of the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs. ReadyWisconsin seeks to educate and empower people to prepare for and respond to disasters.

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readywisconsin.wi.gov
weather.gov/safety/

FLOOD SAFETY



FLOODING DANGERS

Flooding is the most common and costly disaster in Wisconsin, and it can happen anywhere. However, there are ways to reduce your home's risk of flooding and keep yourself safe.

Whether driving or walking, any time you come to a flooded road, **TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!**

Six inches of fast-flowing water can knock a person off their feet. It only takes 12 to 18 inches of flowing water to carry away most vehicles.



WHAT TO DO BEFORE

- Get flood insurance. Most homeowners insurance policies do not cover flood damage.
- Know your flood risk.
- Bring in outdoor furniture and move essential items to an upper floor.
- Turn off utilities if instructed to do so.
- Store important documents in a safe, dry place.
- Have an emergency kit.
- Clear outdoor drains.
- Have a NOAA All-Hazards Radio to receive alerts.

DURING

- Stay informed with a NOAA Weather Radio or local radio or television station.
- Get to higher ground if you are in a flood-prone area or camping in a low-lying area.
- Avoid floodwaters. Do not walk, swim, or drive through floodwaters. Never drive around barricades. **TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!**
- Obey evacuation orders. Lock your home when you leave.



AFTER

- Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- Avoid floodwaters. Standing water can hide many dangers including toxins, sharp objects, or collapsed roads.
- Call your insurance provider to make a claim.
- Inspect your home for damage. When entering buildings, use extreme caution.
- Use generators outdoors.
- Clean safely. Dry out your home as soon as possible to prevent mold. Wear goggles, long-sleeved shirt, pants, gloves, boots, and a respirator mask to protect you from mold damage.
- Throw away unsafe food items.

